

SPARK GAP

Vol. 29, Issue 5, May 2012 *MARC - Serving Central Indiana Communities for twenty-eight Years*

On Our MARC...

May and June are always busy months for the hams around our area, including members of the MARC. By the time you read this, some of you will have already participated in the Indiana QSO Party and others will have played key roles in this year's Mini Marathon. The weekend of May 18-20 will, no doubt, find some of you pointing your vehicle to the east and heading to the Dayton Hamvention. We hope the rest of you will be joining us in Franklin on the 19th for our regular business meeting. Memorial Day Weekend will again find fellow hams busy on the streets of downtown Indianapolis, as they assist with the 500 Festival Parade.

The calendar for June shows no let-up in pace, as the Mid-State club takes its show on the road to the White River Township Fire Department Strawberry Festival on Saturday, June 9th. We will again show our support and appreciation for the men and women of the FD by staffing an amateur radio display at the event. There will be antennas to hoist, displays to set-up, radios to operate, stories to share, and good food to eat. We hope you will plan to spend some time with us at Sugar Grove Elementary School at the intersection of Smith Valley and Berry roads in Greenwood.

Saturday, June 16th will find the MARC membership gathering for another business meeting to put the finishing touches on the plans for this year's Field Day, on Saturday, June 23rd. The decision was made at the April meeting to hold the event at a more public location, which at "press time has not been announced. Details about the site and the schedule for the day will be coming soon.

So, as you can see, we are a busy group and it is only through the efforts of all of you that we are able to cover all these bases. For those who have helped with these events in the past, we say thanks and look forward to your continuing participation. For those of you who are new members of the MARC, we hope to see you out for one or more of these activities in the weeks ahead.

Bob - KC9NJM
President

MARC YOUR CALENDER

ONE DAY TECHNICIAN CLASS

SATURDAY AUGUST 11TH 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

More information to come on the weekly MARC net and the Spark Gap



ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, Invites Input for 2014 ARRL Centennial

The ARRL will celebrate its centennial in 2014, and is already making plans to commemorate the highlights of the League's first century -- and looking forward to what the second century may bring. This is *your* League and *your* centennial and ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, is inviting all ARRL members to provide suggestions to help make this once-in-a-lifetime event truly special.

"Centennial theme publications and special sections of regular publications are in the works," Craigie noted, "as is an operating event that all members can participate in. We will have centennial merchandise in the ARRL store and artwork you can use to design items for yourself and your club. We'll be drawing on the ARRL's historical collection and the memories of living amateurs."

Local radio clubs are encouraged to develop public relations events in 2014 that are both meaningful to amateurs in your area and that are also tied in to the observance of the ARRL's 100th birthday. "These events could celebrate the anniversary of your club's founding, mark an Amateur Radio-related event in local history or honor outstanding amateurs who have made a contribution to your community through the years," Craigie said. "You could organize and publicize an event for local youth who are amateurs or studying to become amateurs, shining a spotlight on the future of Amateur Radio as we follow in the footsteps of the forward-thinking pioneers of our first century. In all your club public relations and outreach plans, the ARRL encourages you to highlight the technologies and applications that make Amateur Radio just as exciting for Americans today as it was for people 100 years ago."

The ARRL Centennial Celebration Committee wants to hear your ideas and suggestions about how the centennial should be celebrated -- both at the national level and through local radio clubs. What should the League do? What can local clubs do to capitalize on the public relations opportunities of the national organization's centennial?

"Every idea you suggest will be considered, even though it likely won't be possible to implement them all," Craigie explained. "Publications, operating events, public relations opportunities, displays, themes, merchandise, highlights of the past, the excitement of the future -- you're invited to be part of designing the centennial of our League!"

This survey will close on **Saturday, June 30**. Or copy the following web address into your browser:
<http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22FPSDNZVC5>.

World's Largest Gathering of HF Backpack Ops Converges on Dayton

HFpack, the international organization of High Frequency portable operators, will stage a massive event at Dayton this year. The 2012 HFpack Eyeball QSO Rally, also known as World's Largest Gathering of HF Backpack Operators, provides an opportunity for everyone to share the experience of lightweight HF SSB ham radio technology in action.

Simultaneously on the air, the HFpack Portable Pedestrian Mobile Net takes check-ins with net control Mark KI0PF/PM. All kinds of HF backpack, portable, and mobile stations participate in this unique net on 18157.5 kHz USB. All ham operators worldwide are welcome to check in to the net.

The /PM operators provide an awesome sight for hams, walking around the outdoor Dayton arena area, while operating with their tall HF whip antennas and fully equipped HF packs. Over the years, many interesting mil man packs and state-of-the-art HF backpacks have been shown off at the event, including everything from the tiniest QRP HF SSB HTs, to a full kilowatt HF backpack running on lithium ion batteries!



2012 HFpack Eyeball QSO Rally

World's largest gathering of HF backpack operators

When: May 19 at 12:30pm to 1:45pm Saturday Location: Dayton Hara Arena outside entrance (awning)

HFpack VHF Intercom HT Frequency: 144.300 FM Simplex PL151.4

HFpack Calling Frequency: 18157.5kHz USB

HFpack Portable Pedestrian Mobile Net

Huge Net of HF Portable Ops

When: May 19 around 1PM Saturday (1700 UTC)

Frequency: 18157.5 kHz USB

Location: Dayton Hamvention outside

Net Control: Mark KI0PF /PM

[More info: http://hfpack.com](http://hfpack.com)

..... eHAM news [Bonnie \(KQ6XA\)](#) May 2012

Silent Key: Jeff Butler KC9HSZ

Sat 05-12 11:03am — W9RXR



Jeff Butler, KC9HSZ, became a Silent Key on the evening of Friday, May 11th. Since May 2006, Jeff had volunteered for nearly 50 Public Service Events and participated in many other ham radio related exercises. He helped in marathons, parades, bicycling rides, air shows, and any other events that would come up.

A memorial service will be conducted at 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 19, at Oakley-Hammond Funeral Home, Moore & Kirk Irvington Chapel, 5342 East Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN, with visitation there from 1 p.m. until time of service.

Having been in the US Air Force, Jeff loved airplanes. When hams were asked to supply emergency communications volunteers for the Indianapolis Air Show, he was first in line to sign up.

Jeff and Penny joined others in the GPS Lunch Hunts I used to have...always making fun of certain points along the way. In May 2007, Jeff participated in a National Level Exercise named Ardent Sentry 07. He was assigned to the Ham Radio Command Center in Muscatatuck Training Area in Southern Indiana.

Jeff was a long-standing member of the Indianapolis Radio Club, Marion County ARES and Marion County RACES. He always asked what he could do to help. For quite some time, Jeff was the first ham to arrive at the Marion County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) when severe weather would threaten the county. He would listen and inform the EOC Manager what was happening in the county as the storms would pass through.

Jeff always had something to say on every subject...sometimes he would disagree with you just to see the reaction he could get from you.

He was a friend, husband, comrade, and volunteer. Jeff was always giving of himself to others; he will be missed.

Jeff, KC9HSZ, rest peaceably, my friend.

A Memorial Fund has been established in the name of Jeff Butler to assist his wife, Penny during this very sad time.

After Tuesday, May 15, go to any Fifth Third Bank (www.53.com) and ask to contribute to the "Jeff Butler Memorial Fund".

Michael R. Palmer, N9FEB

Marion County IN Events Coordinator for Ham Radio

Reserve Coordinator for MC-IDHS

Department of Public Safety

Division of Homeland Security

2012 Indiana Hamfests

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| Feb 25 | Cabin Fever Hamfest , LaPorte Civic Auditorium, LaPorte IN, 7 AM till 1 PM CST, http://k9jsi.org/ , Info N9ROH@csinet.net |
| Feb 25 | Brownsburg Hamfest, American Legion Post 331, Brownsburg IN, 6AM-3:30PM, Talk-in 147.015+, Contact: K9MSG dlucas002@indy.rr.com |
| March 3 | Dugger Hamfest , Dugger Community Building, South Hicum Street (just off State Road 54) Dugger, IN 47848, http://www.kc9ak.org/hamfest.html |
| March 10 | Terre Haute Hamfest , Indiana State University Dede Activity Center, Terre Haute IN, http://w9uuu.org/ |
| March 31 | Columbus Amateur Radio Club Hamfest , Community Building in Columbus, Indiana http://www.carcnet.org/ |
| April 21 | North Central Indiana Hamfest , Miami County 4-H Fairground, Miami County Road 200 North & Mexico Road, Peru IN http://www.nci-hamfest.net/ |
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| July 14 | Indianapolis Hamfest , Camp Sertoma, Indianapolis, http://www.indyhamfest.com |
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| Oct. 6 | Hoosier Hills Hamfest , Lawrence County 4H Fairgrounds, 11261 US Hwy 50 West., Bedford , http://www.w9qyq.org/ |
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| Nov. 17-18 | Indiana State Convention, Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo , Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com |
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MID-STATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club meets the THIRD SATURDAY of each month in the basement of the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, Indiana 46131.

See our website, www.midstatehams.org, for maps on how to get to our meeting.

Everyone is welcome; you do not have to be a HAM to attend our meetings or a member of the club.

WA9RDF
Repeater
146.835/
146.235 MHz
151.4 Hz PL Tone

Club Officers:
President: Robert Jones – KC9NJM
Vice President: Dave Daily – KB9LOT
Secretary: Bruce Tisdale – K9ICP
Treasurer: Jacki Frederick – KI6QOG
Repeater Trustee: Jay Chrismon – AA9YP

Weekly Net: Sunday evening 7:00 PM ARES/RACES members and ALL RADIO AMATEURS

The Official Newsletter of the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

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Franklin, Indiana
46131*

Editor: Robert LaGrange N9SIU

Please send your articles to my email n9siu@yahoo.com no later than the 3rd of the month

